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Examiner: Ghafoorian, Roz
Art Unit: 3763

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-51 (canceled)

52. A method for administering a therapeutic fluid to a patient, comprising the steps of:

(a) causing a first programmable pump assembly to administer the therapeutic fluid to the subcutaneous tissue of the patient;

(b) after a period of time, disconnecting the first pump assembly from the patient; and

(c) repeating steps (a)-(b) with a second pump assembly, wherein the period of time is less than about 5 days.

53. The method of claim 52, further comprising the step of

(d) repeating steps (a-b) a plurality of times with a plurality of pump assemblies.

54. The method of claim 53, wherein the period of time is from about 24 to about 96 hours.

55. The method of claim 52, wherein the pump assembly comprises:

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a housing;

a dispenser contained in the housing for causing fluid from a reservoir to flow to the exit port assembly; and

a local processor contained in the housing and in communication with the dispenser and programmed to cause a flow of fluid to the exit port assembly based on flow instructions.

56. The method of claim 55, wherein the pump assembly further comprises:

a wireless receiver contained in the housing and in communication with the local processor for receiving flow instructions from a separate, remote control device and delivering the flow instructions to the local processor.

57. The method of claim 55, wherein the pump assembly further comprises a power supply contained in the housing for supplying power to the local processor or the dispenser.

58. The method of claim 55, wherein the housing is free of user interface components.

59. The method of claim 52, wherein step (b) comprises the patient using a user interface on a remote controller device to generate data that is transmitted from the remote controller to the pump assembly.

60. The method of claim 59, wherein the data comprises information concerning at least one of a basal rate, a temporary basal rate and a bolus, and the pump assembly processes the data to cause the pump assembly to deliver the therapeutic fluid in accordance with the data.

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61. The method of claim 60, wherein the data concerning the basal rate comprises a plurality of rates and a time period associated with each rate.
62. The method of claim 59, wherein the pump assembly transmits data to the remote controller.
63. The method of claims 52, wherein:
 - step (b) comprises the patient using a user interface on a remote controller device to generate data that is transmitted from the remote controller to the pump assembly;
 - the transmission of data is wireless;
 - the data comprises information concerning at least one of a basal rate, a temporary basal rate and a bolus, and the pump assembly processes the data to cause the pump assembly to deliver the therapeutic fluid in accordance with the data;
 - the data concerning the basal rate comprises a plurality of rates and a time period associated with each rate; and
 - the pump assembly transmits data to the remote controller.
64. The method of claim 52, wherein the therapeutic fluid is insulin.
65. The method of claim 59, wherein the transmission is wireless.
66. The method of claim 65, wherein the pump assembly transmits data wirelessly to the remote controller.
67. The method of claim 63, wherein the transmission is wireless.

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68. The method of claim 67, wherein the pump assembly transmits data wirelessly to the remote controller.

69. A method for administering a therapeutic fluid to a patient, comprising the steps of:

- (a) attaching a first pump assembly to the skin of the patient;
- (b) causing the first pump assembly to insert a transcutaneous access tool into the subcutaneous tissue of the patient;
- (c) causing the first pump assembly to administer the therapeutic fluid to the patient;
- (d) after a period, withdrawing the subcutaneous access tool from the subcutaneous tissue of the patient and removing the first pump assembly from the skin of the patient, wherein the period of time is less than about 5 days; and
- (e) repeating steps (a)-(d) with a second pump assembly.

70. The method of claim 69, further comprising the step of

- (f) repeating step (e) a plurality of times with a plurality of pump assemblies.

71. The method of claim 70, wherein the predetermined period is about 24 to 96 hours.

72. The method of claim 69, wherein the pump assembly comprises:
a housing;

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a dispenser contained in the housing for causing fluid from a reservoir to flow to the exit port assembly; and

a local processor contained in the housing and in communication with the dispenser and programmed to cause a flow of fluid to the exit port assembly based on flow instructions.

73. The method of claim 72, wherein the pump assembly further comprises:

a wireless receiver contained in the housing and in communication with the local processor for receiving flow instructions from a separate, remote control device and delivering the flow instructions to the local processor.

74. The method of claim 73, wherein the pump assembly further comprises a power supply contained in the housing for supplying power to the local processor or the dispenser.

75. The method of claim 72, wherein the housing is free of user interface components.

76. The method of claim 69, wherein step (b) comprises the patient using a user interface on a remote controller device to generate at least one signal that is transmitted from the remote controller to the pump assembly.

77. The method of claim 69, wherein step (c) comprises the patient using a user interface on a remote controller device to generate data that is transmitted from the remote controller to the pump assembly.

78. The method of claim 77, wherein the data comprises information concerning at least one of a basal rate, a temporary basal rate and a bolus, and the pump assembly processes

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the data to cause the pump assembly to deliver the therapeutic fluid in accordance with the data.

79. The method of claim 78, wherein the commands and data concerning the basal rate comprises a plurality of rates and a time period associated with each rate.

80. The method of claim 69, wherein step (a) comprises the step of removing a backing cover from an adhesive layer on a surface of the first pump assembly and placing the first pump assembly on a desired location on the skin of the patient by contacting the adhesive to the skin.

81. The method of claim 69, wherein

the patient affects step (b) by using a user interface on a remote controller device to generate at least one signal that is transmitted from the remote controller to the pump assembly;

the patient affects step (c) by using a user interface on a remote controller device to generate data that is transmitted from the remote controller to the pump assembly;

the data comprises information concerning at least one of a basal rate, a temporary basal rate and a bolus, and the pump assembly processes the data to cause the pump assembly to deliver the therapeutic fluid in accordance with the data;

the commands and data concerning the basal rate comprises a plurality of rates and a time period associated with each rate; and

step (a) comprises the step of removing a backing cover from an adhesive layer on a surface of the first pump assembly and placing the first pump assembly on a desired location on the skin of the patient by contacting the adhesive to the skin.

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82. The methods of claim 69, wherein the therapeutic fluid is insulin.
83. The methods of claim 76, wherein the transmission of data is wireless.
84. The methods of claim 77, wherein the transmission of data is wireless.
85. The methods of claims 76, wherein the pump assembly transmits data to the remote controller.
86. The methods of claims 77, wherein the pump assembly transmits data to the remote controller.
87. The method of claim 55, wherein the housing is free of user input components.
88. The method of claim 55, wherein the housing is free of user output requirements.
89. The method of claim 72, wherein the housing is free of user input components.
90. The method of claim 72, wherein the housing is free of user output requirements.